Cougars' Loss Slight Despite Crowd Drop

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Seattle Sweeps Semi-Finals With Three Straight Wins

By JIM TANG

Professional hockey was once again a losing operation in Victoria this season but despite a drop of almost 13,000 in attendance, the Cougars might have balanced their budget, or even shown a profit, had they not fallen on their collective faces in the Western Hockey League playdowns.

Manager-coach Pat Egan said last night that he estimated there would be an operational loss of "between $5,000 and $6,000" for the season, which ended for the Cougars on Sunday night when Seattle Totems scored a 4-2 victory on Seattle ice to take the best-of-five Western Division semi-final in straight games.

"If we could have won at least one game to get a second home game, we might have broken even on the season," the disappointed Egan stated. "And if we could have taken out the Totems and reached the division final we would have been able to show a profit."

There were other losers besides the Victoria Hockey Club Ltd.—15 of them in fact. The Cougars will probably receive somewhat less than $100 from their share of the playoff pot. They could have won about $1,200 by going all the way in the playoffs.

However, when it came down to cases, the club just didn't have it against the faster Totems. Although they broke even with the Seattle team in six games on Seattle ice during the season and won two of six against the Totems in scheduled play here, the Cougars managed only six goals in three playoff games, and two of those came in the last few minutes of a 3-5 game which was already lost.

"I'm certainly disappointed with the boys for the way in which they played in the playoffs," Egan said on his return from Seattle. "They did well during the season but we couldn't get any 'big' games during the playoffs."

Egan pointed to the failure of his No. 4 line of Gordie Haworth, Al Nicholson and George Ford as the biggest reason for the failure to extend the Totems in post-season play. The trio accounted for 83 goals and 123 assists in league play although Haworth missed five games and Ford missed 10. In the three playoff games, Haworth held up his end with two goals but Nicholson, a 36-goal man during the season, got only one on a power play while Ford, who had 26 in the season, failed to get a point.

FINE DEFENSIVELY

The Doug Anderson-Bruce Lea-Doug Macauley line failed to get a goal but performed exceptionally well in the defensive role in which it was cast so well that Guyle Fielder failed to get a point in the first two games and his two points for the series were matched by Anderson, who took time out from his marking chores to set up two goals.

But while Fielder's line was checked, the Cougars couldn't stop Marc Boileau, Rudy Filion and Bill MacFarland. The former scored four goals, set up two; Filion had two goals and four assists, and MacFarland one goal and four assists.

NEVER AHEAD

Cougars were never once ahead in the series and, while having a good share of territorial play, managed only 55 shots—18 a game—at Seattle goalkeeper Bev Bentley.

That losses were held as low as they were as attendance slumped to about 85,000 from the 97,000 of the previous season is a feather in the hat of Egan and means, probably, that the present ownership will be able to carry on again for next season. Directors will hold a meeting within a few days and shareholders will be called together sometime in April to get a report of the season's operation.

Of the 15 players with the club when the season ended, 10 belong to the Victoria club—Marcel Pelletier, Carl Kaiser, Jim Hay, Don McLeod, Anderson, Macauley, Enio Sclisizzi, Lea, Ford and Gordie Wilson. Three or four at least will likely be among the missing when the next season rolls around.

Whether or not Haworth, Nicholson and Stan Baliuk, owned by Boston Bruins, will be back is now only a matter for conjecture. Ed Harris, owned by Eddie Shore's Springfield club, will probably wind up with the Indians.

HAPPY ENOUGH

Egan said he was "happy enough" with the arrangement with Boston, said that if he should be back here next season that he would be able to obtain three or four players from another club. In any event, there are certain to be quite a number of new faces when the Cougars next skate on to the ice.

Victoria—goal: Pelletier; defence: Hay, Harris, McLeod, Kaiser; forwards: Macauley, Anderson, Lea, Baliuk, Nicholson, Haworth, Ford, Wilson, Sclisizzi.

Seattle—goal: Bentley; defence: Sinclair, Arnett, Davidson, Hunt; forwards: Fonteyne, Fielder, McVie, MacFarland, Filion, Boileau, Leonard, Rimstad, Goyer.

Referee: Scotty Morrison; linesmen: Joey Johns, Pete Wywrot.

FIRST PERIOD

1. Seattle, Boileau (Filion, MacFarland) 11.25.

Penalties: Ford 8.33, Hay 15.33.

SECOND PERIOD

2. Seattle, Fonteyne (McVie, Fielder) :20.

3. Seattle, Fielder (Sinclair, Arnett) 1.10.

4. Victoria, Sclisizzi (Wilson, Kaiser) 3.30.

Penalties: Kaiser 1.22, Harris, Boileau 1.37, Lea, MacFarland 8.30.

THIRD PERIOD

5. Victoria, Haworth (Anderson, Kaiser) 12.37.

6. Seattle, MacFarland (Filion, Arnett) 14.48.

Penalties: None.

Stops:

Pelletier	8	12	8	28
Bentley	6	7	5	18

Jean Beliveau Out At Least 10 Days

CHICAGO — Jean Beliveau will be lost to Montreal Canadiens for at least 10 days, and Chicago's stock has taken a sudden rise in their Stanley Cup semi-final series.

Hawks, with the advantage of home ice, meet the Canadiens tonight in the fourth game of their best-of-seven series. They played their first game on home ice Saturday and knocked off the Canadiens 4-2 for their first series victory.

Beliveau, the NHL's leading scorer with 45 goals, was checked solidly by Glen Skov in the second period and suffered a spinal injury. Yesterday he said he hopes to be back for the finals, but will be examined again in four or five days before he knows for certain.

With Beliveau out, the Canadiens called up veteran centre Ken Mosdell, 36, from Montreal Royals of the Quebec League as insurance. Rookie Ralph Bakstrom will likely replace Beliveau on the Habs production line with Dickie Moore and Marcel Bonin.

There was a rumor in the Montreal camp that Rocket Richard will play in the semi-final series, and although coach Toe Blake denied it, it was considered almost a certainty that the Rocket will be in strip for the fifth game if Montreal loses tonight.

Richard himself termed the rumor "silly." "I'm four or five pounds overweight and haven't been on a scale since I was hurt. To tell the truth, I'm afraid to work."

The Hawks, oozing confidence after Saturday's win, worked out yesterday with defenceman Ron Ingram in strip. Ingram, from Buffalo of the American League, joined the Hawks as a replacement for Elmer "Moose" Vasko, who suffered a dislocated shoulder Saturday.

Series Foregone Conclusion To Leafs' Punch Imlach

TORONTO — Punch Imlach, never at a loss for words, was his old voluble self yesterday in talking about Toronto's chances in the Stanley Cup hockey playoffs, but he was strangely close-mouthed regarding his own future.

Imlach calmly stated that his Leafs, down 2-1 in the best-of-seven semi-final against Boston, will beat the Bruins tonight in Toronto, then win two more games to take the series. He was replying to a statement by Boston coach Milt Schmidt that the Bruins would "beat the stuffings" out of the Leafs.

But while the Leafs were concentrating on the playoffs, the Toronto brass was planning for the future, and Imlach's name kept cropping up prominently.

Saturday, Conn Smythe, president of Maple Leaf Gardens said that Imlach, originally hired as general-manager, will carry on next season as coach as well.

"ILL-TIMED"

Yesterday, Staff Smythe, Conn's son and chairman of Toronto's executive "Silver Seven," termed the remark "ill-timed," and said that the decision will not be made until next season, and that it will be up to Imlach whether or not he coaches.

Imlach took over the coaching duties in mid-season when Billy Reay was fired. He has since stated that he wants to be general-manager only, but last night he commented that "I'm not concerned with the controversy—if there is one—right now. All I care about is knocking Boston out of the running."

PERSONAL OPINION

Conn Smythe later expressed surprise that his remark had started a stir. He said it was merely a personal opinion based on admiration for Imlach.

Meanwhile, the teams held workouts in preparation for tonight's game. Schmidt announced the only player change, calling up winger Ken Yackel from the American League. He replaces injured defenceman Doug Mohns.

Dobbyn Begins Selling Career

Bill Dobbyn has begun a new career as salesman for Colonist Commercial Printers.

The 23-year-old former defenceman for Victoria Cougars, was sidelined this season after having one eye poked out by a hockey stick.

He had the choice of several offers of jobs in Eastern Canada, but accepted the position with Victoria Press "because I feel this is a place I'd like to spend my life."

He first took a shine to Victoria while playing with the Cougars in the 56-57 and 57-58 seasons. This season he was with Buffalo when his playing career ended suddenly and tragically.

Nevertheless, he plans to participate actively in minor hockey around Victoria.

"I always enjoyed working with kids," he said. "I've coached juvenile and minor teams before.

"I haven't given much thought to returning to hockey. Right now I'm concentrating all my energies on my new career. But by the time fall rolls round, who knows?"

PHOTO FINISH

KEMPTON PARK, Eng. (AP) — Sacarole held off a strong challenge by Amazon's Choice and won the two-mile Queen's Prize race by a head Monday in a photo finish.

Disputed Star Red Berenson Leads Bombers

FLIN FLON, Man. (CP)—A four-goal third period gave Flin Flon Bombers a 6-3 win over Edmonton Oil Kings Monday night in the first game of their Western Canada Memorial Cup best-of-seven semi-final series.

Gord (Red) Berenson, whose use by Bombers had been protested prior to the game by Oil King coach Ken McAuley, scored three times to lead Flin Flon to victory. The two clubs meet in Flin Flon again tonight.

Berenson is one of three replacements picked up by Flin Flon for the inter-provincial playoff. He was obtained from Regina Pats. He had played his hockey this season with the University of Michigan and the world champion Belleville MacFarlands.

Bearcats Lead In Allan Cup

PORT ARTHUR (CP)—Port Arthur Bearcats edged Regina Caps 3-2 Sunday to take a 2-0 lead in their best-of-five Western Canada Allan Cup semi-final. Bearcats won the opener 5-2 Friday. Third game is Tuesday in Regina.

Local Flavor to Table Tennis Tourney

Annual western Canada table tennis championships Friday and Saturday at Amphion Street hall have attracted top-flight stars from Canada and the United States, but Victoria entrants are expected to more than hold their own. Among the top local entrants are, left to right, Otto Ossege, present leader in city club championship; city women's champion Nancy Craig, and Rick Gough, last year's western Canada juvenile champion, now competing in junior division.—(Colonist photo)

Plays Tonight

Veteran of several Pacific Coast Soccer League seasons, winger Ced Robb will be in action tonight at Royal Athletic Park when Victoria Evcoes hold their "possibles vs probables" practice match at 7 p.m.

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Evcoes Hopefuls On View Tonight

Coach Willie Hamilton will have another look at the talent on hand for the Evcoes entry in the Pacific Coast Soccer League tonight at 7, when the "possibles" play the "probables" at Royal Athletic Park.

In a preliminary game at 6, Gyros and Hampton Eagles of the Lower Island Junior and Juvenile Soccer Association hold a replay of their Division VII lower Island final. The teams played to a 1-1 overtime draw Saturday in one of the juvenile soccer day games.

Tomorrow night at 7, Heaneys and Canadian Scottish meet in a sudden-death Victoria and District Football League semi-final. Winner meets Esquimalt Dockers, who entered the final Sunday with an upset 2-1 win over Gorge Hotel.

Tommy Druce scored the winning goal for the Dockers two minutes before the final whistle to snap Gorge's unbeaten streak at 10 league matches. Don Wakelyn got the other Esquimalt goal, and Bill Abbott tallied for Gorge.

JOHNNY ALLEN DIES

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP)—Johnny Allen, who had a tempestuous pitching career with five major league teams, died of a heart ailment at his home here Sunday. He was 53.

FAN FARE By Walt Ditzen

Speaking Briefly

Gump Worsley Inks Rangers Contract

Lorne "Gump" Worsley, long the favorite target when it comes to criticizing New York Rangers, yesterday became the first player to sign with the club for the 1960 National Hockey League season.

Worsley went into a bad slump at the end of the season when the Rangers blew what looked like a certain playoff berth. He immediately became the subject of a controversy that had him going to the minor leagues or being traded to Toronto Maple Leafs.

New York general-manager Muzz Patrick was quoted as blaming Worsley for the fact that the Rangers missed the playoffs, but he later issued a denial.

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VANCOUVER CANUCKS have called in veteran goalie Lucien Dechene of Saskatoon Quakers to replace rookie **Bruce Gamble** in tonight's fourth game of the Western Hockey League semi-finals against Spokane Spokes in Spokane. Gamble suffered a broken nose in a game Saturday . . . **Former middleweight** champion **Bobo Olson** took a big step in his attempted comeback as a light-heavyweight last night with a unanimous decision over **Rory Calhoun** in San Francisco . . . Los Angeles Dodgers have optioned pitchers **Roger Craig** and **Bob Giallombardo** and outfielder **Don Mills** to Spokane of the Pacific Coast League . . . Promoter **Bill Rosensohn** continued to stall about details of the **Floyd Patterson - Ingemar Johansson** heavyweight title fight yesterday, saying he will name the date and the park for the New York bout Thursday. It had been reported that he had announced the date as June 25, after first naming June 23 . . .

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CHICOUTIMI SAGUENEENS have dropped out of the Quebec League playoffs because of a player shortage. Four players refused to appear because of a disagreement over their share of playoff money . . . **Art Wall's** final-round 73, one over par, gave him a 282 yesterday and top money in the Azalea Open golf tournament. The $2,000 made him top man on the pro gold trail this season with $18,814 . . . **David N. Gill**, manager of the Ottawa Senators when they won the Stanley Cup in 1927, died Sunday.

East, West Split Honors In Fivepins

VANCOUVER (CP) — The East and West Monday gained an even split in the Canadian fivepin bowling championships here, each side gaining two titles.

Paced by Winnipeg bowlers, the West scored victories in the men's singles and women's team events. Toronto bowlers gave Eastern Canada wins in the women's singles and the men's team events.

Ed Cantor, gaining strength in each game, won the men's title by a comfortable 386 pins over Herb Donaldson of Toronto.

Toronto's Helen Richards scored a surprisingly easy victory over Vancouver's Elsie Jackson in the women's singles. Miss Jackson rolled a perfect 450 in the western roll-offs Saturday.

The Winnipeg women's squad defeated a Toronto team by 683 points, 11,770—11,087.

Vancouver bowlers again fell before Toronto entrants in the men's team title.

Braves Wallop Cardinals To Brighten Bad Weekend

Baseball buffs spent the weekend wondering about the poor Milwaukee Braves. Yesterday, the Braves spent the afternoon clobbering St. Louis Cardinals, 12-2, to add a tinge of brightness to the worst record in the grapefruit circuit.

With the opening of the National League baseball season less than two weeks away, the Braves have done little to improve their own confidence or their stock in the rest of the league.

Consider: Their record is a miserable 6-13; they still haven't found a second-baseman to replace Red Schoendienst, and general-manager Birdie Tebbetts admits he' getting worried about complacency on his team. If that isn't enough, ace southpaw Warren Spahn was blasted for four home runs in Sunday's 7-3 loss to the Redlegs of Cincinnati, traditionally Milwaukee "cousins."

Yesterday, however, the Braves looked good as Carlton Willey and Bob Rush combined to toss a six-hitter at the Cards.

MONDAY

St. Louis	000 001 001	2	6	2
Milwaukee	070 001 22x	12	15	0

Brogtio, **Blaylock** (8) and Green; **Willey**, Rush (7) and Rice. Homers: St. Louis—White. Milwaukee—Aaron.

Kansas City	000 010 030	4	10	2
Chicago (A)	003 020 00x	5	7	0

Garver, Gorman (6) and House; **Donovan**, Dufour (8), Rudolph (8) and Lollar.

Cincinnati	000 000 000	0	5	0
New York	201 001 00x	4	4	1

Newcombe, Pena (8) and Doterer; **Shantz**, Trucks (8) and Howard.

Baltimore	000 101 200	4	14	3
Pittsburgh	100 411 01x	8	8	2

Harshman, Estrada (7) and Triandos, Ginsberg (6); Kline and Burgess. Loser, Harshman. Homers: Baltimore—Tasby.

Detroit	000 003 302	8	11	0
Los Angeles	000 102 010	4	10	0

Foytack and Lau; Fowler, **Podres** (3), Valdes (8) and Roseboro.

Philadelphia	000 006 140	11	13	0
Washington	500 002 000	7	17	1

Cardwell, Farrell (1), **Short** (7) and Thomas; Kralick, **Valentinetti** (6) and Fitzgerald. Home run: Philadelphia, Bouchee.

Chicago (N)	220 120 010	10	16	1
San Francisco	108 003 010	8	10	3

Schaffermeth, Buzhardt (7) and Taylor, Massa (4); Giel, **Nyman** (4), Shipley (6) and Landrith. Home runs: Chicago, Altman, Banks, Long (2); San Francisco, Brandt, Speake, McCovey, Bressoud.

Cleveland	000 101 300	5	9	3
Boston	120 002 00x	6	10	0

Thomas, Woodeshick (3), **Brodowski** (6), **Striker** (7) and Brown; **Bowsfield**, **Sisler** (8) and White.

SUNDAY

Boston 9, San Francisco 7.
Chicago (N) 2, Cleveland 4.
Cincinnati 7, Milwaukee 3.
Kansas City 3, Washington 2.
Chicago (A) 3, New York 3 (called 8th, rain).
Pittsburgh 5, Baltimore 6.
Los Angeles vs. Detroit and St. Louis vs. Philadelphia, cancelled, rain.

Savage Cup Series Tied

VERNON (CP) — Paced by Howie Hornby's two goals, Nelson Maple Leafs edged Vernon Canadians 5-4 here Monday night to tie the best-of-seven British Columbia Savage Cup senior A hockey final series 3-3. The next game is slated for Vernon tonight.

About 1,600 fans watched Warne Hicks, Wendy Keller and George Ferguson score the other Nelson markers.

Willie Schmidt, Jim Moro, Art Hart and Harry Smith shared the Vernon scoring.

SOCCER
EVANS COLEMAN & EVANS
EVCOES
POSSIBLES
vs.
PROBABLES
ATHLETIC PARK
Tuesday, March 31
7 p.m.
Admission 35c

'Strikeout' Scientist Proves It

Baseballs Really Curve

WASHINGTON (AP) — A baseball really does curve. Take the U.S. government's word for it.

But take with a grain of salt those swing-and-miss batters who swear that blasted third strike was a curve that broke two feet.

The most that even a master such as Whitey Ford of New York Yankees can bend a pitch is 17½ inches.

That's straight dope from Dr. Lyman J. Briggs, scientist and baseball buff.

Briggs is director emeritus of the national bureau of standards and was active head of this research and testing agency from 1933 to 1945.

In his 84 years Briggs has probed into things ranging from golf balls to atomic fission. He recently delved into baseball for two reasons: (1) He sought data on the flight of low-speed missiles and (2) he never could hit a curve and is still unhappy about it.

To make his case, Briggs shot rotating baseballs with an air gun and plunked them into a wind tunnel at the bureau. He also persuaded Camilo Pascual and Pedro Ramos of Washington Senators to toss a few curves for his scrutiny at Griffith Stadium.

From all these observations, Briggs concluded:

The maximum curve a pitcher can achieve in the 60 feet, six inches from pitcher's mound to home plate is 17½ inches. To do that he has to rotate the ball perfectly sidewise, like spinning a plate flate on a table. Since a pitcher usually snaps his wrist at an angle, he gets less than the maximum curve.